HC HANATOYUME COMICS 別冊花とゆめ

嘘解きレトリック

4

都戸利津（みやこ・りつ）

Shoujo Sense
嘘解きレトリック
Usotoki Rhetoric
by Miyako Ritsu
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4
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Usotoki Rhetoric 4

While the detective and his assistant were running away in the night and solving the crime in the Doll Mansion,
there was another incident that no one knew about
that happened in the Iwai Investigation Firm in Tsukumoya.

Chapter 15

SFX: VROOOM
My name is Fujishima Chiyo.
I like the series of novels called "Detective Mayume Hideyoshi".
She is strong, cheerful, and a perfect woman.
WE'RE HERE, M'AM.
I WILL PICK YOU UP AFTER TWO HOURS.
I came here today to apologize
about something I said to Kanoko-san some time ago.
"A friend visited and told me she had a problem."
"So I would like get Souma-sama's help."
I want to tell Kanoko-san,
that my friend's problem has been resolved.
SIGN: IWAI INVESTIGATION
I already sent a telegram, so why would I come here?
Of course, I came to see in person the admirable detective,
Iwai Souma-sama!!
KANOKO-SAN, THE ASSISTANT. →

Here we go!
To follow Souma-sama's example of being frugal and reliable,
I wore the same ribbon I had on when I first met him,
and I'm going for an understated look that I still love.
SORRY FOR INTRUDING!
THEY'RE NOT HOME?
Oh,
it's not locked.
ガラッ
SFX: KNOCK KNOCK

Doesn't look like anyone's here.
SOUMA-SAMA?
EXCUSE ME,
But why is the door unlocked...
Ah!
← KANOKO-SAN, THE ASSISTANT.
Conceptual image
I've read about something like this before!
The door was unlocked and the main character went in after he sensed something suspicious...

SFX: BAM!
This is bad!!!
EXCUSE ME, I'M COMING IN!!!
SOUMA-SAMA?! KANOKO-SAN?!
SOUMA-SAMA?!
WHERE ARE YOU?
SOUMA-SAMA...
SFX: BAM!
Thank goodness.
There's no dead body.
Maybe they're really just out...
RUSTLE
SOUMA-SAMA...
SFX: RUSTLE 2X

Meow.
OH, THE CAT IS HERE.
DON'T KNOCK OVER THE WASTE-BASKET LIKE THAT, OKAY...
YOU REALLY LIKE THAT PAPER, HUH?
AH!
I've read about something like this too!
A pet warning the owner that their life is in danger by showing them clues.
It was a dog, but...
It's telling me to look at this piece of paper.
There's something that smells good inside.
Does this paper show where Souma-sama is...?

There's only juices from some left-over food...
...
rustle
PE?
What's "PE"?
glare
Look closer, Chiyo.
Letters "P" and "E"?
DEAD!!!
this
Th-

This is a murder case!!
Souma-sama was abducted while he was eating!
Is he safe?
But these leftovers are dry.
KANOKO-SAN TOO, PROBABLY
Days must have already passed.
Does this mean Souma-sama is already...
DUNNN
Souma-sama can't be killed that easily.
KANOKO-SAN TOO, PROBABLY. I'M NOT SURE
He's very agile. Even Koukichi-san said so.
No.
clench

I will find this criminal
and save Souma-sama!!
Now is the time to make use of my powers of foresight and deduction!
SFX GLARE
sparkle
sparkle
I wonder what case he's working on.
He doesn't have any material here relating to a case.
is probably someone related to a case he's investigating.
looks around
Time to start the investigation!!
The man after Souma-sama's life
And if that's the case,
that being a detective can be a dangerous job.
Souma-sama himself knows

he probably hid his evidence in a hard to find place in case something like this happens.
I need to be extra perceptive.
I HID THE EVIDENCE SOMEWHERE ELSE
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU KILL ME

That's out of place.

This looks strange... Nope, has to be something smaller
I have to find some small thing that's out of place.

1

■ごあいさつ

噛解きレトリック④
お手に取って頂き
ありがとうございます。
短い話が詰まっていますので、いろんなテイストの
噛解きレトリックを
お楽しみください。

■ご意見 ご感想など
ありましたらこちらまで。

〒101-0063
東京都千代田区
神田淡路町2-2-2
白泉社
別冊花とゆめ編集部
都戸利津

An ingenious murder case involving a complex food combination...
Grandpa, grandma, vegetables, and fishes...
Maybe money and valuables were hidden inside vegetables and fishes
Grandpa
Grandma
sesame
bamboo shoot
radish
fried tofu
red beans
And then below are names of vegetables and fishes
This could be a code
Looks like someone's here.
Souma.
knock knock
Maybe it's a friend of Souma-sama.
Maybe he'll know something.
And maybe we can crack the code!!
No!!
Aki

If he finds out I have the code and the evidence
then my life could be in danger too.
THE DETECTIVE IS WAITING FOR YOU AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA.
Splash
SOUMA? ARE YOU HOME?
But what if this man is working with the killer?
Slap
I should just pretend I'm not here.
No way!
SOUMA?
CREAK

Don't make any noise, Chiyo!!

What is he doing?
He just stepped in without permission!
Now I'm sure he's with the killer!
ばっくん ばっくん
SFX TREMBLE 2X
He's writing something.
He's showing his weakness.
How reckless!
SFX BOOM
I'll get him to confess where he hid Souma-sama!!
SFX GRAB
I can throw this pot at him and catch him.
SFX GAH!

glance
!!!
TAP
TAP
TAP
It's so heavy I can't even lift it!
MEOW
He left...
It could be...
"Be careful going out on moonless nights."
or some form of warning like that.
It could be a threat
That was scary!
WOBBLE
Who was that man?!
And what did he write?

He's the man who wants to kill Souma-sama!
I have to be careful!
I'm gonna lock the door so he doesn't come back again!!
SFX: CLATTER
Souma, Make sure you always lock the door.
It IS a threat!!!
That means he knew he was in danger and he went into hiding!
But since this note is a threat,
It means Souma-sama isn't dead, yet!
Ah!
Then...
I have to do something about that man...
hiho
So this isn't connected to any case that Souma-sama is pursuing!

...NO, WAIT!!
If I go outside I won't be able to lock the door!!!
ばたん
the blackmail note, and my own eyewitness testimony,
If I have this discarded paper in the trash,
I should go and call the poli...
ooo
click
The police can help me send that man to jail!
SFX SLAM
when he gets home...?
and prepares to ambush Souma-san
he he he
What if that man comes back,
じっ
> x STARE
...
How can I inform the police?

I wrote a note and tied it around the cat's neck.
I'm sure it's going to reach the police.
Souma-sama's cat is wise, just like him.
?
?
PLEASE TELL THEM FOR ME!
When the police arrives, I'm going to show them the evidence...
This threatening note and that letter from the trash...
Where did I put that letter?
Huh?
SFX ST CK

Why did it turn black?
NOOO !!!
RIP
NOT ON MY FAVORITE SKIRT!!
It got juice all over my skirt!
SFX RLB GX
glance
And the paper from the trash is messed up...
Rustle
The blackmail letter is all smudged.

I wrecked the evidence...
...
But Souma-sama's life is in danger...!!
they're going to think I'm making things up.
You again?
There's been another incident!!
Without the evidence,
I'll fix it so it can be read.
This is a good thing. I have to warn them.
If it can't be read,

ON THE CRUMPLED PAPER KILL

Souma

Be careful going out on moonless nights

Now it's easier to read.

Now

I have to wait for the police to come.

I'll wear this cause it's scary

I wonder if the cat has already arrived at the police station.

tick

tick

No, Chiyo, you have to steel your nerves and wait.

Will Kanoko-san?

Will Souma-sama come back here?

A perfect lady
has to be strong.

SFX "UWA"
Something must have happened to the cat.
That man must have taken him!
If that's what it has come to then I have no choice but to go myself!
It's getting stuffy here
When the hell are they gonna come?!
SFX WHAP

I have to put this where he can see it...
I have an idea!! I have a notepad here in my purse...
But I can't lock the house...
To the man in the round glasses,
the police are coming for you soon!
and I'm going to leave a note for that man!!

...Chiyo.
To the police station!!
SFX DASH

MISS,
Someone help
where the police station is in the Tsukumoya.
You don't know

THE POLICE?! WHAT...
YOU'RE JUST IN TIME! TAKE ME TO THE POLICE STATION!
O-OKAY!
HURRY!!
SFX VROOOM
KOU-KICHI!!
I'VE COME TO PICK YOU UP

SIGN ON THE BUILDING TSUKUMOYA POLICE STATION
SFX GLAZED
I just realized
HAS ANYTHING HAPPENED, MISS?
WE HAVE ARRIVED...
I have to let them know quickly.
SFX THUMP ZX
But I'm already here, so I might as well...
And the door's left unlocked
that I didn't need to come over here myself.
I could have just asked Koukichi to come get them for me.
THANK YOU. PLEASE WAIT FOR ME.

No doubt about it.
That's...
It's the same man...!
And he's entering the police station...
That must mean...

? IS EVERYTHING FINE?

KOUKICHI, LET'S GO HOME

?

sparkle

sparkle

This a victory for love, justice, brains, and courage!!!

SFX: CLANK

They arrested him!!!

A perfect lady doesn't brag about her successes.

YES.

OKAY, THEN.

As expected from Souma-sama's cat!!

The cat must have arrived with the letter!

No one saw the hard work I did today.

LET'S GO HOME, MISS

Souma-sama's life is going to be saved!

But it actually feels refreshing to not be praised.

I FEEL LIKE I'LL HAVE GOOD DREAMS TODAY ♥

THAT'S GOOD, MISS

HAPPY END

flip

scratch scratch

WE'RE FINALLY BACK.

OUR PLACE LOOKS PRETTY DULL THOUGH,

COMPARED TO THE DOLL MANSION.

IF THAT'S SO THEN YOU SHOULDN'T BE RUNNING AWAY INTO THE NIGHT.
GROOOWL
BUT OF COURSE, OUR HOME IS ALWAYS THE BEST!
WELL, I HAD TO ASK TARO TO FEED INARI,
AND KAORU ALSO COMES AND GOES A LOT, SO NO ONE'S GONNA TRESPASS.
IS IT UNLOCKED AGAIN?!
creak
... YEAH.
LET'S JUST BRING OUR LUGGAGE IN. THEN WE CAN GO STRAIGHT TO KURATA TO EAT.
THAT'S NOT GOOD!
Meow

There's something written on the paper that fell off.
Hm?
Give it here nya!
meow
INARI!!
WE'RE HOME!!
WERE YOU PLAYING WITH THE NEIGHBORS NEXT DOOR?
I'M BRINGING YOUR LUGGAGE IN TOO, KANOKO-KUN.
What is this?
SFX PAT PAT
EH, I DON'T NEED IT ANYMORE RIGHT NOW...
THE LIST OF TSUKUMOYAKI INGREDIENTS YOU THOUGHT YOU LOST!
I FOUND IT, DETECTIVE!
Rustle
Grandpa
Gran
Rhubarb
Kelp
dried plum
Sesame
Bamboo shoot
Ah!
Kamaboko
red beans
Radish
Fried tofu

foo...
food
THEN I'LL JUST THROW IT IN THE TRASH.
flip
!!
D-DETECTIVE!!
T-
THAT'S ...
WHAT IS THAT...

I WONDER...

LIKE RUNNING AWAY INTO THE NIGHT?
There it is.

IS THERE SOMETHING YOU DID THAT WOULD MAKE THE POLICE WANT TO CATCH YOU?
"ROUND GLASSES"? IS THAT REFERRING TO ME?
"TO THE MAN IN THE ROUND GLASSES: THE POLICE ARE COMING FOR YOU SOON!"

NOTE: KILL

Souma: Be careful going out on moonless nights.

So is this from the landlord?
But why was it addressed to me and not the detective?

IT'S FINE.
!!!
DE-TEC-TIVE.
WH... WHAT SHOULD WE DO...
Eek!
Someone wants to kill the detective...!!
THIS RIBBON, IS FUJISHIMA CHIYO'S.
THE NOTEPAD USED, THE HANDWRITING, IT'S ALL HER.
Chiyo-san?!
!!
WHY WOULD CHIYO-SAN, LEAVE SOMETHING LIKE THAT FOR US?
IT'S NOT WORTH WORRYING ABOUT.
BUT WELL,

I THINK SHE PROBABLY READ SOME NOVEL AND LET HER IMAGINATION RUN WILD.
Criminal
To the Tsukumoya police: Someone is trying to kill the detective Iwai Souma. I have evidence. Please come.

Chapter 15 / END